Claims:

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1. Screen for holding refuse sacks (7) open, characterized in

that the screen (1) is shorter than the refuse sack (7) such that open parts (7b) of the refuse sack (7) can be folded into the screen (1),

that the screen (1) is designed to stretch the refuse sack (7), and

that a locking device (11) is provided to lock the open parts (7b) of the refuse sack (7) and the screen (1) to each other.

2. Screen according to claim 1, characterized in

that the screen (1) consists of elastic material and is compressible from a normal shape to a narrower shape,

that the refuse sack (7) can be threaded onto the screen (1) or said screen (1) be inserted into said refuse sack (7) when said screen (1) is compressed to a narrower shape, and

- 20 that the screen (1) can be brought to spring out from its narrower shape to its normal shape and thereby stretch the refuse sack (7).
- 3. Screen according to claim 2, characterrized in that a holding-together member (13) is provided to hold the screen (1) in its narrower shape.
- 4. Screen according to any preceding claim, c h a r a c t e r i z e d i n that second end portions (1c) of the screen (1) has at least one handle opening (6) into which parts (12) of the refuse sack (7) are insertable such that one can get hold of the handle opening (6) in order to lift and carry the screen (1) and the refuse sack (7).
- 5. Screen according to any preceding claim, c h a r a c t e r i z e d i n that the locking device (11)
  35 comprises pins (11a) which extend outwards from second

end portions (1c) of the screen (1) and against which open parts (7b) of the refuse sack (7) can be pressed preferably for penetration thereof.

- 6. Screen according to any preceding claim, c h a 5 r a c t e r i z e d i n that the screen (1) in cross section has a semicircular or substantially semicircular shape.
- 7. Screen according to claim 1, c h a r a c t e r i z e d i n that the screen (1) is provided to permit location thereof, with a refuse sack (7) provided thereon, on a support (8) from which refuse shall be moved into the refuse sack (7), such that those parts (12) of the refuse sack (7) which extend between the two longitudinal edges (2, 3) of the screen (1) and which thereby have a planar or substantially planar shape, are situated close to and/or engage said support (8).
- 8. Screen according to any preceding claim, c h a r a c t e r i z e d i n that the longitudinal edges (2, 3) of the screen (1) are designed or include members 20 for preventing damage of the refuse sack (7) by said longitudinal edges (2, 3).
- 9. Screen according to any preceding claim, c h a r a c t e r i z e d i n that a strip (15) can be hooked onto two longitudinal edges (2, 3) of the screen (1) such that said strip (15) extends across an opening (1a) between said edges (2, 3) at second end portions (1c) of the screen (1) and that open parts (7b) of the refuse sack (7) can be folded within said strip (15).
- 10. Screen according to any preceding claim, cha30 racterized in

that the screen (1) is thin-walled and elastic and consists of polypropylene or similar material, and

that the refuse sack (7) is a plastic bag from which the screen (1) can be removed and which can be 35 tied up after removal of the screen (1).

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## **AMENDED CLAIMS**

## [received by the International Bureau on 31 January 2005 (31.01.2005) Claims 1 was amended (total 2 pages)]

1. Screen for holding refuse sacks (7) open, characterized in

that the screen (1) is shorter than the refuse sack (7) such that open parts (7b) of the refuse sack (7) can be folded into the screen (1),

that the screen (1) is designed to stretch the refuse sack (7), and

that a locking device (11) is provided on the screen (1) such that open parts (7b) of the refuse sack (7) can 10 be pressed on said locking device (11).

2. Screen according to claim 1, characte-rized in

that the screen (1) consists of elastic material and is compressible from a normal shape to a narrower shape,

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that the refuse sack (7) can be threaded onto the screen (1) or said screen (1) be inserted into said refuse sack (7) when said screen (1) is compressed to a narrower shape, and

- 20 that the screen (1) can be brought to spring out from its narrower shape to its normal shape and thereby stretch the refuse sack (7).
  - 3. Screen according to claim 2, characterrized in that a holding-together member (13) is provided to hold the screen (1) in its narrower shape.
- Screen according to any preceding claim, c h a r a c t e r i z e d i n that second end portions (1c) of the screen (1) has at least one handle opening (6) into which parts (12) of the refuse sack (7) are insertable such that one can get hold of the handle opening (6) in order to lift and carry the screen (1) and the refuse sack (7).
  - 5. Screen according to any preceding claim, c h a r a c t e r i z e d i n that the locking device (11) comprises pins (11a) which extend outwards from second

end portions (1c) of the screen (1) and against which open parts (7b) of the refuse sack (7) can be pressed preferably for penetration thereof.

- 6. Screen according to any preceding claim, c h a 5 r a c t e r i z e d i n that the screen (1) in cross section has a semicircular or substantially semicircular shape.
- 7. Screen according to claim 1, c h a r a c t e r i z e d i n that the screen (1) is provided to permit location thereof, with a refuse sack (7) provided thereon, on a support (8) from which refuse shall be moved into the refuse sack (7), such that those parts (12) of the refuse sack (7) which extend between the two longitudinal edges (2, 3) of the screen (1) and which thereby have a planar or substantially planar shape, are situated close to and/or engage said support (8).
- 8. Screen according to any preceding claim, c h a r a c t e r i z e d i n that the longitudinal edges (2, 3) of the screen (1) are designed or include members for preventing damage of the refuse sack (7) by said longitudinal edges (2, 3).
- 9. Screen according to any preceding claim, c h a r a c t e r i z e d i n that a strip (15) can be hooked onto two longitudinal edges (2, 3) of the screen (1) such that said strip (15) extends across an opening (1a) between said edges (2, 3) at second end portions (1c) of the screen (1) and that open parts (7b) of the refuse sack (7) can be folded within said strip (15).
- 10. Screen according to any preceding claim, cha-30 racterized in

that the screen (1) is thin-walled and elastic and consists of polypropylene or similar material, and

which the screen (1) can be removed and which can be tied up after removal of the screen (1).